

**ONE HUNDREDTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION -
2008
COMMITTEE STATEMENT**

LB723

Hearing Date: January 28, 2008

Committee On: General Affairs

Introducer(s): (Engel)

Title: Change the State Electrical Act

Roll Call Vote - Final Committee Action:

Placed on General File with Amendments

Vote Results:

8 Yes	Senators Dierks, Dubas, Erdman, Friend, Janssen, Karpisek, McDonald, Preister
0 No	
0 Absent	
0 Present, not voting	

Proponents:

Sen. Pat Engel
Randy Anderson
George Ellyson
Lance Webster

Representing:

Introducer
State Electrical Board
City of Wayne, Nebraska
City of Wayne, Nebraska

Opponents:

Representing:

Neutral:

Eric Hoke

Representing:

Lincoln Homebuilders

Summary of purpose and/or change:

LB 723 updates a reference to the National Electrical Code and provides other updates to the State Electrical Act. The National Electrical Code governs the standards and duties of the State Electrical Board and the publication number and date must be revised periodically in our statutes.

Details

Section 1 amends §81-2104, relating to duties of the State Electrical Board, by changing the publication date and number of the National Electrical Code which the State Electrical Board must adopt as part of their rules and regulations.

Section 2 amends §81-2120, relating to reciprocity of licenses, by adding the requirement that Nebraska licenses may be granted without examination to electricians licensed in other states *if* the other state license was granted by examination. This puts Nebraska in compliance with an already existing multi-state agreement on reciprocity.

Section 3 amends §81-2121, which lists exceptions to the State Electrical Act, by allowing employees of public utility, municipal, public power, irrigation, railroad, electrical co-ops or telephone/telegraph employees from having their work-related work inspected, as long as they are qualified in electrical maintenance under Article 100 of the National Electrical Code. Article 100 requires training in the hazards of the specific work being done.

Section 4 amends §81-2124, which calls for the inspection of all new electrical installations, by adding that an elected or appointed official of local government may request an inspection of any existing installation when an inspection is already being conducted and an electrical hazard has been found.

Section 5 amends §81-2126, which states the process for inspection requests, by eliminating a 50-cent supervisory fee, and increasing the penalty for filing a late inspection request from \$50 to \$250. The supervisory fee is no longer collected, and the fine has not been increased for more than 20 years.

Section 6 amends §81-2132, which restates the exemption of public utility, municipal, public power, irrigation, railroad, electrical co-ops or telephone/telegraph employees from having their work-related work inspected, as long as they are qualified in electrical maintenance under the National Electrical Code, Article 100.

Section 7 provides an operative date of December 15, 2008, for Sections 3, 6, and 8.

Sections 8 and 9 repeal the original sections.

Explanation of amendments, if any:

AM1668 adds a reference to a continuing education requirement which already exists in statute to sections 3 and 6 of the bill. The reference is added to clarify that those whose work is exempted from inspection under §81-2121 and §81-2132 are required to have the same continuing education requirement as those who are applying for license renewal.

Senator Vickie McDonald, Chairperson